

May 8, 1961.

The Honorable Perry O. Wilkinson  
Speaker of the House  
State House  
Annapolis, Maryland

Dear Mr. Speaker:

I am today vetoing House Bill No. 585, and in accordance with the provisions of Article II, Section 17, of the Maryland Constitution, I am returning the same to you, along with my veto message.

House Bill No. 585 is a Somerset County local Bill. The intent of the Bill is to increase the civil jurisdiction of Trial Magistrates in Somerset County from the maximum of \$200 to an amount not to exceed \$500.

On March 16, 1961, the President of the Somerset County Bar Association wrote my office and advised that the entire Bar Association, with the exception of one member, was in opposition to the Bill. He stated that it was the feeling of the Bar Association that if this legislation became law, it would give rise to a greater opportunity for the unauthorized practice of law in Somerset County.

My office has also discussed this Bill with Honorable E. McMaster Duer, Judge of the Circuit Court for Somerset County. Judge Duer advises that, in his opinion, the Bill is unnecessary and undesirable. He stated that he feels that if this legislation is written into law, it will tremendously increase the number of appeals from the Magistrates Court to the Circuit Court. He stated that it is his feeling that there is no need to change the present law at this time.

My office has also discussed this legislation with Judge G. Beverly Holland, Trial Magistrate at Princess Anne. Judge Holland advised that he is greatly concerned with this legislation. He stated that because his Court is located such a short distance from the City of Salisbury, his office handles a large majority of civil cases in the County. He feels that if the jurisdiction is increased to \$500, it would be impossible for his office to handle the volume of work that will be sent to him by the merchants in the vicinity of Princess Anne and the merchants and businessmen in the Salisbury area who file civil suits in Somerset County.

As a result of the conversations with the above mentioned individuals, and others, it is my feeling that this legislation is not necessary at this time. Based on this, I have reached the conclusion to veto House Bill No. 585.

With kindest personal regards and best wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,

(s) J. MILLARD TAWES,  
Governor.

JMT/rnb

**House Bill No. 630—Cancellation of Insurance Policies**

AN ACT to add new Section 86A to Article 48A of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1957 Edition), title "Insurance", sub-title